

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE 43

WASHINGTON TIMES  
13 February 1984

## JOHN LOFTON'S JOURNAL

STAT

STAT

# Legacy of savagery is left by Andropov

How embarrassing. Imagine the depression among those members of the Soviet medical establishment. Their president has died of a cold! But seriously, now I'm really confused. When they were saying Yuri Andropov was okay, I was sure he was not. Now that they're saying he bought the dacha, I'm sure he is not dead.



I wonder what it was like at the moment of Yuri's passing? Was there a half-read Jacqueline Susann novel beside the bed of this person The Washington Post said some Western analysts felt was a "closet liberal," this person the New York Times said was seen as "cultivated" by some American specialists? Was an old Glenn Miller record playing softly in the background when Yuri expired? Was he mumbling in the fluent English, which some dupes said he spoke but nobody could prove?

And, of course, I am now also worried about the fact that Vice President Bush will be representing our country at Yuri's funeral. Why does this worry me? Because Mr. Bush said some very dumb things at the most recent funeral he attended for a Soviet head of state. Following his attendance at the Brezhnev funeral, Mr. Bush said of the then new Soviet leader, Mr. Andropov, that "some people" had made his former job as head of the KGB sound "horrendous." Said Mr. B of Mr. A:

"Maybe I speak defensively as a former head of the CIA. But leave out the operational side of the KGB — the naughty things they allegedly (?) do. Here's a man who has had access to a tremendous amount of intelligence over the years. In my judgment he would be much less apt to misread the intentions of the United States."

Commenting on the fact that Mr. A was "very much in charge" of the Soviet government, Mr. B said that on this basis there was "every reason to be hopeful" that "you've got to be hopeful."

In another interview, Mr. B said, when asked if Mr. A could be trusted to keep an agreement: "It's hard to say... I have no reason to believe that as a person (he) would break his word. I don't have any reason to believe the other way."

But, in fact, there was no reason to be hopeful about Mr. A. And there was every reason to believe he was a pathological liar. Prior to officially being named Russia's Number One Thug, Mr. A did such "naughty things" as: playing a key role in crushing the freedom fighters in Hungary and Czechoslovakia; directing the Soviet genocide against the Afghanistan people; smashing the dissident movement in the USSR; and there is compelling evidence that his KGB was behind the plot to murder the Pope.

In his definitive book "KGB," John Barron notes that when Mr. A was Soviet ambassador to Budapest in 1956 during the revolt "he demonstrated a first-rate capacity for intrigue by luring Hungarian leaders to their deaths." Mr. Barron says that after Mr. A deceived Imre Nagy and Pal Maleter into believing the Soviets would be willing to negotiate with them, these two leading freedom fighters were murdered.

As George Olkhovsky, the official U.S. representative of "Kontinent" — a magazine of political commentary founded by Alexander Solzhenitsyn and other Soviet emigres — told me at the time regarding Mr. A: "I have never heard one good thing about him. He is the worst son-of-a-bitch in existence!"

And while he was in office, Mr. A continued his legacy of savagery. It was on his watch, for example, that Soviet fighter pilots murdered the 269 men, women and children aboard the unarmed civilian Korean airliner, Flight 007.

So, where do we go from here? Who and/or what can we expect after the death of Mr. A? Well, the first rule of thumb is that we should believe virtually nothing we hear coming from the Soviet Union. As ex-communist Arthur Koestler observed in his chapter in the classic "The God That Failed" — concerning Party meetings:

"Two hours of this dialectical tom-tom and you didn't know whether you were a boy or a girl, and were ready to believe either as soon as the rejected alternative appeared in inverted commas. You were also ready to believe that the Socialists were: (a) your main enemies, (b) your natural allies; that socialist and capitalist countries: (a) could live peacefully side-by-side, and (b) could not live peacefully side-by-side; and that when Engels had written that Socialism in One Country was impossible, he had meant the exact opposite.

"You further learned to prove, by the method of chain-deduction, that anybody who disagreed with you was an agent of Fascism, because (a) by his disagreeing with your line he endangered the unity of the Party; (b) by endangering the unity of the Party he improved the chances of a Fascist victory; hence (c) he acted objectively as an agent of Fascism even if subjectively he happened to have his kidneys smashed to pulp by the Fascists in Dachau."

Says Mr. Koestler: "There is always a supply of new labels on the Cominform's black market in ideals. They deal in slogans as bootleggers deal in faked spirits; and the more innocent the customer, the more easily he becomes a victim of the ideological hooch sold under the trademark of Peace, Democracy, Progress or what you will."

Please, remember this, Mr. B when you attend Mr. A's funeral.